

Go, and Sin No More.

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Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more. Those were the words of Jesus spoken to the woman caught, red handed, in adultery. She was without excuse to her accusers, who brought her and throw her down before Jesus. They had enough witnesses; it is believed that some of those who were now accusing her had in the past committed the very same act with her. Would I be accurate to say that this woman had a problem that many sinners had and have today? No! I dare to say that Adam's entire race has that problem. But wait! Before you go making an exception of yourself from such an awfully shameful act of sin; thinking that you may not have this particular weakness, know and understand that that act of sin was not the problem of that woman nor is it yours or any of Adam's race. The question here is, was this woman truly condemned? According to Jesus' words, "...he that believeth not is condemned already..." So this woman's act of breaking the 7th commandment is not what condemned her; she was simply acting out the nature of a condemned person. She was born condemned under the curse of Adam's transgression. Romans 5: 12 tell us that sin entered the world through one man and because of that death is passed unto all men.

A condemned person is one who is accused and is under the pronouncement of death. But here was a woman who was caught in the very act of adultery and her accusers brought her before the Saviour of the world asking him to sanction her execution, tempting him with the law. Yet they did not realize that they were all condemned; guilty of the acts propelled by the same condemned nature, and in reality were declaring themselves worthy of the same sanction. They were all deserving to be stoned to death, but they would have needed someone un-condemned to do that stoning.

There was only one human person who was worthy to do such a thing. But his purpose was not to condemn, (for we were all already condemned) but to save. So what did the Saviour of this world do? He did not rise up and stone all of them including the woman. His response was to show them their true condition; that they were no less guilty than she whom they were accusing. He went straight to the root cause. ***"So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her."*** (John 8:7). Sin! At this point the spirit of God moved upon their consciences and they were convicted without excuse. They hung their heads in the shame and burdened guilt of who they really were and slowly walked away. Understandably, the eldest among them had the greatest record of guilt. So they were the first to leave. From the eldest to the youngest they dispersed while the silence grew as the last one departed leaving the woman in the presence of Jesus.

"When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee? She said, No man, Lord..." No man, not even those who caught her in the act, could condemn her, except he that was without sin. For, had there been any among them that had no sin, he would have been the first cast a stone at her. Jesus boldly invited any one who was of such innocence to make his move. This person would have to have had no nature of sin; no record of sin and therefore not condemned. The response was a growing silence; while they listened to the crescendo of voices in their condemning consciences. Yet there was standing there one who

had no nature of sin; had no record of sin; one in whom there was righteousness and life and no condemnation. One who was qualified to condemn. But thank God for His great love, he did not condemn; instead he offered something more. "... ***Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.***" (John 8:11).

Go and sin no more. That was neither a request nor even an advice; it was a command. But how can a woman who was born in sin and shaped in iniquity and had developed this nature by practicing an adulterous sinful life just go on and sin no more? Being condemned, under the curse of sin which is death, the act of sin is its natural outworking. So it follows true that one who is condemned cannot escape such acts. So the woman was not able to obey such a command until she was first released from that condemnation. Jesus did just that "Neither do I condemn thee". In fact, he came not to condemn but to remove condemnation. He came not to destroy but to give life and life more abundantly. "***For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.***" (John 3:17).

What did this woman have to do in order to receive this new life? She certainly did not do anything to earn it! She was caught in the very act of sin! If there was any time in her life she had done anything good or recommendable, it was certainly not at that moment! Yet in the height of her sinful life Jesus gave her something that changed her life. To be told by him who has power to destroy both body and soul, that you are not condemned, means that you have been set free from death; you have been given life. In her encounter with Jesus it was revealed to her that he was the sinless Son of God and if he had condemned her **no more** then she had been freed of sin which condemned her in the first place. In believing that this was the promised sinless Son of God, her faith took hold and she trusted his words and believed that she was indeed set free, and indeed she was. In one package she received freedom from sin and death, and a new life with a clean righteous nature. This life can only come from the Father through Jesus His Son. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, (to us) that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

The command to 'go and sin no more', can only be given to those who have been set free from the condemnation of sin. Clearly the condemned could not obey such a command, or else her self-righteous accusers would have attained unto such a state and would have stoned her to death. The root cause of the condemnation must first be removed. Jesus wanted to show them that the root cause was their sinful nature. How do we escape such a condemnation? In showing them that they were all sinners, Jesus unveiled their self-righteousness and opened their minds that they could see their real condition; their true sinful nature. Then he showed them that he was the redeemer and that in him was a new life to be received by faith.

This freedom from condemnation was available to the accusers of this woman. You will find this true in these lines: "***For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath, not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.***" (John 3:18). Jesus came to offer salvation; to save the world from the sentence of death. So if you do not believe on him nothing has change for you, because you were already condemned. In fact the first condemnation was taken care of by Jesus at Calvary. But if you refuse to accept that then you are right where you were at the start. This is what Jesus meant when he said, "***And this is the***

condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.” (John 3:19). In other words, refusing to accept life simply leaves you with death, which is what you had before, so nothing has changed.

Who is your accuser?

“And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. (Rev 12:10)

In the case of the woman caught in adultery some of the accusers, are believed by some bible scholars to have been involved with her in the same act. Now they stand ready to execute her. In so doing they were carrying out the purposes of the Devil. He brought Adam and Eve into sin and then turns around and accuses them and their children before God day and night. This is what the accusers of the woman did. They had wily her into a sinful act then brought her to the Son of God and accused her.

We know from the word of God that Satan was accusing us before God constantly. I can just imagine the Lord answering him and his fallen angels, “He that is without sin, let him first cast a stone.” Then came Calvary and victory on resurrection morning. ***“And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. (Rev 12:9).***

So today Jesus is asking you and me and every child of Adam, “where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee?” Answer Him “No Lord! You have cast him and his followers down.” His response to you will be, “Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.”

“Go and sin no more;” “...you are clean because of the words I have spoken. (John 15:3). “I have given you abundantly a new life; my very own, you are a new creation, old things are past away, behold all things are become new”. (2 Cor 5:17)

“There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.” (Rom 8:1, 2)

“Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.” (John 8:12)

“Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.” (Rom 8:33)

With every command of God, there is an enabling, and Jesus has given you, me, and all of mankind the command to **“go and sin no more.” ¶**